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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 069626
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 DOE-11 INT-05 SOE-02
CU-04 L-03 /044 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:KMCCORMICK:DH
APPROVED BY AF/S:LMACFARLANE
AF/S:WEATON
F/EPS:FTHOMAS
EB/ORF/FSE:DHART
COM/OEC/MEPD:WHAIMES
COM/BED/OIM/AF:MCHITTUM
U/AF:HMACDONALD (INFO)
AFR/SA:RWRIN (SUBS)
----------037531 180549Z /16
P R 172337Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 069626

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, EINV, WZ

SUBJECT: COAL PROCESSING PLANT FOR SWAZILAND

REF: (A) MBABANE 0023; (B) MBABANE 788; (C) STATE 60395;
(D) MBABANE 48I

I. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. REGRET DELAY IN ANSWERING REF
(A). DEPARTMENT AND USDOC HAVE REVIEWED POSSIBILITIES
AND CONCLUDED THAT TRAVEL BY SWAZI GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DIRECTOR DLAMINI TO LAS VEGAS MINING SHOW CANNOT BE
FUNDED UNDER ANY USG PROGRAM. USDOC BELIEVES THAT
THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR
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FUNDING DLAMINI'S TRAVEL. IF POST WISHES TO PURSUE GOS
REQUEST, ONLY POSSIBILITY WOULD APPEAR TO BE TO TIE
VISIT IN WITH AN IV GRANT. SHOULD GOS DECIDE TO FUND
DLAMINI'S VISIT, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE FACILITA-
TIVE ASSISTANCE THROUGH FOREIGN BUYERS PROGRAM. END
UNCLASSIFIED.

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2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. DLAMINI'S ATTENDANCE AT MINING SHOW WOULD DOUBTLESS BE VALUABLE WITH RESPECT TO OTHER ISSUES BESIDES COAL PROCESSING, AND EMBASSY SHOULD SIMPLY EXPLAIN THAT US DOES NOT MAINTAIN PROGRAMS WHICH WOULD PAY FOR IT. HOWEVER, AS REF (C) SUGGESTED, GOS

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN SUCH HIGH-COST, TECHNOLOGICALLY SOPHISTICATED FIELDS AS MAJOR COAL GASIFICATION APPEAR UNLIKELY TO GENERATE INVESTMENT. THEY HAVE RAISED SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING WHETHER GOS INTENDS TO CONCENTRATE ON APPROPRIATE AND COMMERCIALLY SOUND PROJECTS. EMBASSY HAS COMMENTED (REF D AND PREVIOUS) ON "AIR OF UNREALITY" WHICH PERVADES SOME GOS ECONOMIC THINKING AND OBSERVED THAT TOUGHER-MINDED ASSESSMENTS OF VIABILITY WOULD ENABLE SWAZIS TO AVOID COSTLY FAILURES. WE WOULD BE CONCERNED IF OVERLY AMBITIOUS PROPOSALS WERE TO UNDERMINE THE GOS' REPUTATION FOR ECONOMIC PRUDENCE AMONG POTENTIAL INVESTORS. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH DLAMINI AND OTHER GOS OFFICIALS YOU SHOULD ATTEMPT GENTLY TO TURN GOS THINKING AWAY FROM HIGH-RISK VENTURES REQUIRING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND MASSIVE CAPITAL INVESTMENT. END CONFIDENTIAL. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COAL, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, GRANTS, VISITS, MINING INDUSTRY, EXHIBITS
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Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 85
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Reference: 78 MBABANE 23, 78 MBABANE 788, 78 STATE 60395, 78 MBABANE 48
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SAS ID: 3285733
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COAL PROCESSING PLANT FOR SWAZILAND
TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, EINV, WZ
To: MBABANE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cfaa7cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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